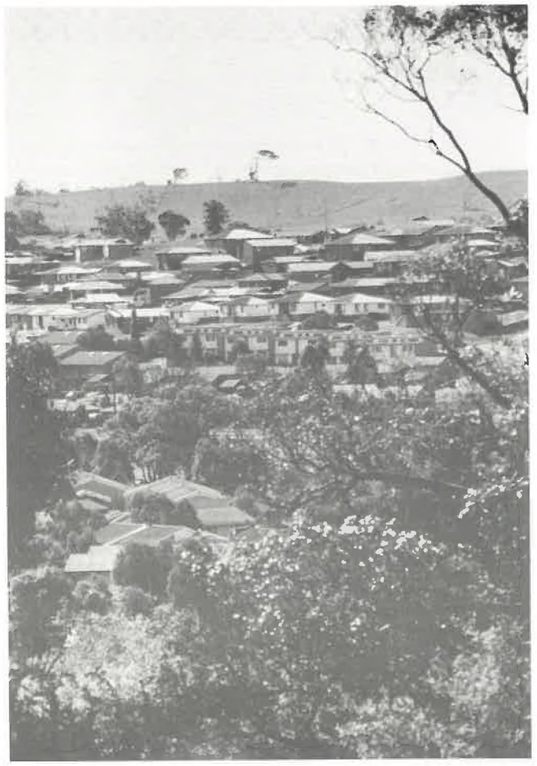

Claymore

John & Joan Harding & children

DREAM A NEW DREAM

Capt. John Harding C.A.

"Dream a new dream," says Captain John Harding, Minister in Charge at Claymore, "Look forward, don't look back at past failures. See yourself as God sees you! If life has been broken apart, a disappointment, filled with depression, then it is time to dream a new dream and the sooner the better!".

Claymore is one of those new suburbs that has been created through the vast population explosion in the outlying areas, west of Sydney. It is part of the Parish of Campbelltown. This area is said to be one of the fastest growing areas in Australia.

Claymore should be a good place to live. The homes are mainly housing commission dwellings, the streets are well planned and laid out and there's open spaces and parkland. Yet there are deep social, economic and spiritual problems. A high proportion of the approximately 5,000 population are young people. Little seems to have been done to cater for the needs of these young people. Unemployment is high. Vandalism is rife. To many, Claymore seems like the end of the line and nowhere to go — not what dreams are made of!

John Harding is a family man, married to Joan. They have two children, Amanda, 6 years old and Andrew who's 1.

John was Commissioned as a Church Army Officer ten years ago. He has now been at Claymore 13 months. "Ministry", says John, "means looking after the whole person. Their spiritual, mental and physical well being. Making people feel wanted and worthwhile!".

There's a practical approach to ministry. A Church owned lawn mower is used by many parishioners on a communal basis. There's a fruit and veg.' buying co-operative. A phone call will usually find a new home for unwanted furniture and out comes the Harding's trailer to deliver it.

Books, secular and religious, on all kinds of topics are on constant loan to parishioners.

Home meetings include, Bible studies, a Ladies Afternoon Fellowship, and an All Ages Guitar Group. G.F.S. (Girls' Friendly Society) is a small active group. Scripture at two of the local schools is a combination of songs, memory verses and drama. An often noisy exhuberant, yet rewarding experience for John and his team of helpers..

Rev. John Darlington, Rector of St. Peter's, Campbelltown, says of Church Army's ministry at Claymore:

"Captain Chris Thiele, C.A. who was our Youth Worker at St. Peter's in 1982 visited Claymore on a part-time basis, establishing contact with people in the area. After this Captain John Symons was appointed Acting Minister in Charge of Claymore. Initially John and his wife, Dianne and their five children lived in a housing commission home. It was quite a squeeze! Later they moved into a larger home provided by the Diocese.

John Symons served in Claymore for three years, establishing regular Church Services and visiting many people in their homes.

Captain John Harding, the Church Army Officer who's now the Acting Minister there, is building upon the ministry of his predecessors. He is well liked and his enthusiasm is contagious and rubs off. Whether it's preaching or pastoring, John Harding makes an impact that stays with you! The Church is growing in Claymore".

Church membership stands at 50; 20 are adults. Sunday Services are held in the Primary School Hall, a time of worship for all ages. By traditional standards it could be faulted, with children distracting with their noise and demanding attention. It is however a time of teaching, learning, growing and of praising the Lord.

Establishing a Church that will have an impact on the community, meeting the needs of many and challenging people to change their life styles. Blending together the things new dreams are made of!

Thumbs up School Scripture

The Church at Claymore!

Guitar group

With Rev. John Darlington, Rector of Campbelltown

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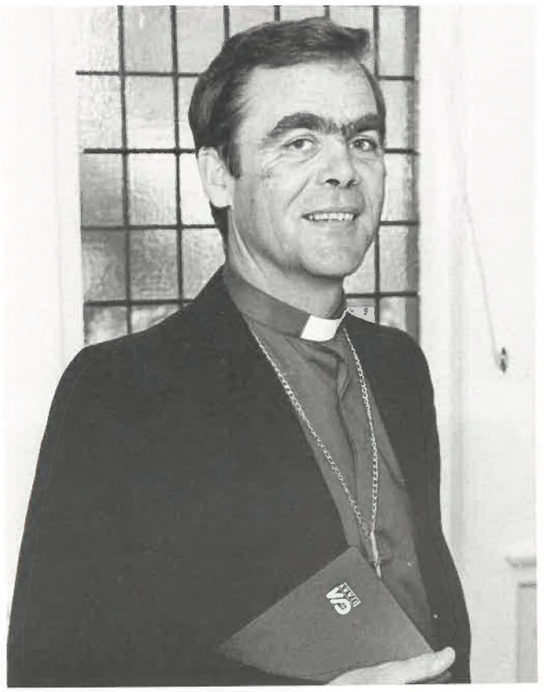


Rt. Rev. George Browning

CHRIST IS RISEN!

I am absolutely convinced that our commission to preach the Gospel is our greatest joy and privilege, but as Anglicans, it is a matter that we often approach with embarrassment if not diffidence.

At various times in our history spontaneous movements of the spirit have captured the imagination of the Church.

There can be little doubt that in Australia at the present time there is a real desire for evangelism in most of our Dioceses and Parishes.

It is therefore a pleasure for me to be able to write a few words in support of that arm of our church which exists specifically to train people as evangelists.

In recent years I have had the pleasure of working with the Church Army at various levels from being a member of their commission to sharing the work of a student evangelist at Parish level.

The Church Army can help us to lose our awkwardness and build our confidence.

It is awful, that for our own security, we often feel the need to label others. Those in the Church Army have not been immune from this and have variously been seen as representing one or other part of our Church.

The Church Army is the servant of the whole Church, and certainly has the wonderful potential of leading us all into a fresh experience of new life in Christ; an experience which in turn will equip us to lead others to be open to Him.

My wife Margaret and I are glad to be regular financial supporters of the Church Army, and warmly encourage you to do the same.

The Society needs our prayers, deserves our encouragement, and seeks our financial support.

May God bless the work we all share together of announcing the good news that "Christ is Risen"!

+ George Browning

The Right Reverend G V Browning
BISHOP FOR THE NORTHERN REGION
DIOCESE OF BRISBANE

NEW OFFICERS

Sister Gai Atwell.

CAPTAIN KEN FOLEY

Captain Foley's home Church is St. Columb's, West Ryde.

Ken is a trained Nursing Aid and has worked at various hospitals before coming to Church Army.

Married to Jenny, they enjoy many activities together including art, motor bikes, bushwalking, camping and tennis. Jenny likes cooking and sewing also, and Ken is into weight lifting.

They are now living in Brewarrina in the far west of N.S.W. (Diocese of Bathurst) where Ken has been appointed Evangelist in charge.

Captain Foley was Commissioned as a Church Army Officer and Admitted to the Office of Evangelist on December, 5th, 1986.

Sister Jane Henry.

CAPTAIN WARREN SMITH

Captain Smith was born in Rabaul, Papua — New Guinea. He lived there until he was fifteen, leaving to complete tertiary education as a boarder at Barker College, Sydney. Warren's home church is St Stephen's, Willoughby, Sydney.

Prior to Church Army he worked as a Computer Programmer for the Commonwealth Bank.

He enjoys singing and playing the guitar, writing some of his own music.

Sports include, touch football, squash, swimming, weight lifting and gymwork. For a number of years he worked part time as an instructor in a gymnasium.

Commissioned as a Church Army Officer and admitted to the Office of Evangelist on 5th December, 1986.

Captain Smith has now been appointed Parish Assistant with special responsibility to youth and evangelism, St. John's, Cessnock, Diocese of Newcastle.

Capt. Barry Thatcher.

SISTER GAI ATWELL

Sister Atwell came to Church Army from St. George's Church, Hurstville. Prior to Church Army she worked for 2½ years as a secretary.

During her teen years she was a Lieutenant in the Girls Brigade and won a Queens Award. She also gained recognition in leadership, gaining a Rotary Youth leadership Award.

Gai is engaged to Mr Nicholas Pastor and they are to be married at her home Church on 25th April, 1987.

With four others, Gai was Admitted to the Office of Evangelist and Commissioned as a Church Army officer on December, 5th 1986.

Hobbies include music, art and tennis.

A Field appointment is being negotiated.

Capt. Ken Foley & wife Jenny.

SISTER JANE HENRY

Sister Henry was a member of St. Faith's. Narrabeen before coming to Church Army.

After High School she worked as a Jillaroo in Walcha for 3 years. Following this gained a Biological Technician's Certificate and worked for a number of years in industry as a Lab Technician.

Her many outdoor activities include: sailing, canoeing, scuba diving, and horse riding. She also enjoys sketching and painting.

Commissioned as a Church Army Officer and Admitted to the Office of Evangelist on December, 5th 1986, Jane has now been appointed to the Parish of Raymond Terrace, Diocese of Newcastle, as Parish Youth Worker and Evangelist.

Capt. Warren Smith.

CAPTAIN BARRY THATCHER

Barry Thatcher was born in Melbourne but has spent most of his life in Maroochydore, Queensland.

He served a five year apprenticeship as a Moulder in a Foundry.

Barry also worked part-time as a Youth Worker and it was perhaps this experience that led him into full-time ministry. Work also included two years as a Brisbane Taxi Driver.

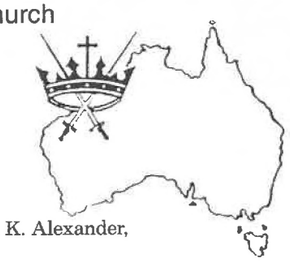
Hobbies are swimming, surfing, sailing and Australian Rules Football.

Captain Thatcher was Commissioned as a Church Army Officer and Admitted to the Office of Evangelist on December, 6th, 1986.

He has now been appointed Parish Evangelist and You
Worker at St. Mark's, Revesby, Sydney Diocese.

THE CHURCH ARMY IN AUSTRALIA

A Society of Evangelists within the Anglican Church



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Message

FROM THE FEDERAL DIRECTOR

Gilbert Page.

A certain wine advertisement used to say of the manufacturer "You make us smile ...." In many parts of Australia today that smile seems to be fading. In the political world there are red faces, with behind-the-scenes infighting as well as embarrassing disagreements and leaks continuing. Sadness and fear clearly show through the apparently brave face being put on by many as the deadly AIDS virus spreads in our own and other countries. Economic forecasts and huge trade deficit figures have made for gloomy faces amongst employers and employees.

Preachers are sometimes accused of seeking a Christian commitment by stirring up irrational fears in their listeners. Occasionally there is some justification in this criticism. Again, it is obviously far too simple to say: "Trust in Jesus, and all your problems disappear. He will put a smile on your face, a spring in your step ..."

What then is the task of an evangelist in Australia today? Certainly not to promote a faith which acts as an immediate cure-all — in much the same way that T.V. adverts. claim for their products. A grinning, singing facade fools no one — least of all the genuine person honestly seeking a meaning in today's complex society.

A realistic faith built upon who God is, what he has done, and what he promises does however drastically change how events are experienced. I am changed not so much by what happens to me from outside, but by what is continually taking place in my inner-most being. This is what affects the impact of what occurs externally, over which I may in fact have little influence. A growing personal commitment to the living God through faith in Christ, results in the kind of peace that cannot be shattered however fierce the storm. That God-given peace lasts for ever.

The rest of this magazine will tell of some of the ways in which Church Army Officers are seeking to change the face of Australia — by working for a change of heart in Australians. Do help us to be agents of change.

THE CHURCH ARMY IN AUSTRALIA

P.O. BOX 107, FRENCHS FOREST, N.S.W. 2085

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CONTENTMENT?

"Now I am six, I'm as clever as clever, so I think I'll be six now for ever and ever."

So said Christopher Robin. And so say many of us. We reach a certain age or certain situation in life, and we want to stay put. Contentment oozes out of us.

What's wrong with contentment? Didn't Paul encourage it? Yes and no.

In material circumstances, contentment as opposed to greed is right and proper. Yet Paul also writes of striving to be more like Christ.

Christians are in the process of becoming. They are not in the state of having arrived. And so they need to be open to the new things God wants to do with them and through them.

Staying as you are in your relationship with Christ is the spiritual equivalent of stale bread or flat lemonade.

Being open to God's Spirit is to allow the freshness and fizz to get to work.

Expect God to refresh, change, and re-direct you. Don't be simply satisfied with what He's done so far, or limit Him to what He has done previously. God doesn't get stuck in ruts, nor does He run out of new ideas.

He doesn't want you to stay six for ever and ever.

Rev. David Reay
Rector of St. Stephens, Belrose
Chaplain Church Army College of Evangelism

CHURCH ARMY COMMISSIONING

Approximately 400 people attended the Commissioning Service at St. John's, Parramatta on December 5th, 1986. Five students of The Church Army College of Evangelism were Admitted to the Office of Evangelist by the Rt. Rev. K. Short, Bishop of Parramatta on behalf of the Primate. They were also Commissioned as Church Army Officers by Captain Gilbert Page, Federal Director of the Church Army in Australia. The students were Gai Atwell, Ken Foley, Jane Henry, Warren Smith and Barry Thatcher.

Two others, Lorraine Spooner, a student and Jenny Foley, wife of Ken Foley, were sent forth with a blessing for other ministries of Evangelism and Pastoral Care.

Parts of the Service were led by Rev. David Reay, College Chaplain and Rev. Bill Lawton, a member of the Church Army Board.

An inspiring Commissioning Address was given by Rev. Michael Rees, Chief Secretary of The Church Army in Great Britain.

(Left to right — back row): Captain Brian Mattinson (Staff Officer); Rev. Graeme MacRobb (College Principal); Captain Gilbert Page (Federal Director); Captain Barry Thatcher (new Officer); Bishop Ken Short. (Front row): Sister Gai Atwell; Sister Jane Henry; Captain Warren Smith; Captain Ken Foley (new Officers).

NEW STUDENTS

Miss Wendy Tyrrell comes from the parish of Trentham in the City of Upper Hutt (near Wellington) New Zealand. Before commencing training Wendy worked as a laboratory technician in Animal Vaccine Production. For the three months prior to College she did the three months discipling course offered in New Zealand by the Church Army at their recently opened "Banyard College". Her field training in New Zealand was in the parish of Birkdale/Beachaven where the Rev. Sr. Lorraine Lloyd (N.Z.C.A.) is the Vicar. Her main hobby is Campanology (Bellringing). Wendy's Field Work placement is South Carlton with the Rev. Bill Payne.

Mr. Andrew Mallas is from Springwood, N.S.W. (in the Blue Mountains). Prior to coming to College he completed a Bachelor of Arts degree at Sydney University, majoring in History and Indian Studies. He has a special interest in eventually getting involved in cross-cultural evangelism. Special hobbies; music and cricket. Andrew is attached to the parish of Mona Vale with the Rev. Ron Coleman.

Mr. Charles Hume is from Gisborne, New Zealand. Charles originally worked as an Accounts Clerk but for the past two years has been a parish youth worker as part of the 'Order of St. Stephen". He has worked in the parish of Te Hapara where the Rev. Capt. David Pask (N.Z.C.A.) is Vicar. He is attached to the parish of Hornsby and works particularly with the Rev. David Luke at Hornsby Heights.

Mr. John Stanley comes from Winston Hills and worshipped at St. John's Parramatta. He has been working on a B.Sc. degree at the Institute of Technology and working part-time as a bar steward. His special interest include scouting, bush walking and skiing. John's weekend placement is South Hurstville where the Rev. Ken Le'Huray is Rector.

Miss Elverina Murgha is from Yarrabah Aboriginal Community, North Queensland (near Cairns). Prior to coming to College she worked at the Yarrabah Rehabilitation Centre as a drug and alcohol counsellor (following initial training in Brisbane). She has assisted Bishop Arthur Malcolm and his wife Coleen in evangelistic work in other aboriginal communities. Elva's hobbies are basketball and singing. Her field work placement is Redfern parish working with both the Rector, Rev Geoff Huard and Pastor Jack Braeside (responsible for ministry to and with Aboriginal parishioners).

(Left to right): Wendy Tyrrell, Andrew Mallas, John Stanley, Elverina Murgha, Charles Hume.